

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The circumstances of the killing of Peter Shaver by the Shawnee Indians are about as follows Viz.,. Just after his service in the militia expired he was at home and his wife himself, his father and old man, went a short distance away on an errand or to do some work. In the evening the old man Paul and the young wife of Peter started back to the cabin both riding one horse as was the custom. Peter, himself afoot took a shortcut to the cabin and arrived first by a few minutes. When Paul and Peter's wife came riding up she noticed something lying in the path near the front door and putting her hand to her face exclaimed Peter is killed and the old man tried to quiet her by saying it is a log rolled into the path but when they came a little closer the truth was seen. Peter had been scalped but few minutes before and upon ascertaining this they fled on horseback to some distant neighbors. I am not now sure but think one child was also killed and three not found were saved and three or four months after FRANCIS who was my ancestor, was born with the mark of his mother's hand on his face, as the story goes-a large birth mark. This of course attributed then as very frequently now to the fright she got at the sight of her husband lying dead in the path. She and his father Paul of course barely escaped as Peter had taken the nearer route only few minutes ahead of them.

All this occurred at the mouth of Shaver Run, a little branch that comes down out of Shaver Mountain near Beverly or Huttonsville but across the river, Valley River.

It will be noticed that George, the eldest son of

Monmouth

Paul, as heir apparent joined in deed with his mother conveying land in this section and that the other brothers did not join as they did not at that time inherit along with the eldest son.

Clem Shaver's Branch of Shaver "sailly

Tracing backward it runs Clem Shaver son of John Riffle  
Shaver son of James Shaver son of Francis Shaver son of  
Peter Shaver son of Paul Shaver who originally settled  
in Augusta County in about 1725.

Paul Shaver b. ? settled about 1725 on head of So. Branch then to Cheat. Act of Virginia Assmebl granted him 7 pounds and 8 shillings for services in Virginia Militia during French and Indian War.

He had four sons, **GEORGE**, heir apparent who joined as such with his mother in conveying lands on cheat, **JOHN** (my ancestor) and **PETER** (my ancestor) and **PAUL**. There may have been others but we have no record.

Peter Shaver, ~~from whom my father takes his middle name~~, married Sarah Riffle, (from whom my father takes his middle name). He was said to have served as Indian Scout as did some of his brothers during the Revolution and was himself killed by a band of Shawnee Indians right at the close of the Revolution.

He had four sons, JOHN who married Polly Nestor (and for whom my father was named) JAMES (for whom my grandfather was named) JACOB (who married Rachel Davis and moved to Kanawha and there by error spelled his name with an f ) and FRANCIS my ancestor.

Francis Shaver, b about 1781 or 1782 and married Phoebe Hall 1810 or 1811. To them were born beginning with the first in Sept 1811 eleven children, Susanna, Sarah, John, James, Jacob, Hezekiah, Francis Riffle, George W, Mary Eleanor and Edward. Of these JAMES was my grandfather.

James Shaver b 1818 and married Elizabeth Campbell and they were born 8 children and one being JOHN RIFFLE SHAVER, my father.

JOHN RIFFLE SHAVER b 1841 and married Sarah Cunningham in 1866 and to them were born also 8 children and the eldest being CLEM SHAVER.

John Rffffle Shaver served in the 20th Virginia Cavalry, Confederate Army under General Early.

P S- This shows we are indigenoues to the soil and that it has been Shaver as now in almost the same spot for just two hundred yrs.

SHAVER FAMILY.

The following notes on the Shaver Family of Pendleton County may not be correct in all details.

PAUL SHAVER:

In a list of delinquents for 1755, the name of Paul Shaver occurs. To the name was added "no estate," probably because of his youth and absence on military duty. Chalkley's Abstracts of Records of Augusta County, Vol. 2, P. 416.

On August 22, 1760, his name was added to tithables, Vol. 1. P. 87.

Paul Shaver was among those paid by Act of the Assembly at Williamsburg, September 14, 1758, for being in the militia of Augusta County. He drew 7 pounds and 8 shillings. Hening's Statutes. Vol. 7, P. 184.

On November 11, 1758, Paul Shever was one of the appraisers of the estate of Michael Freez (Frise). Chalkley, Vol. 3, P. 50.

Powl Shaver mentioned in the settlement of Peter Moser's estate by Michael Mallow; allowed May 19, 1761; will made June 28, 1758. Chalkley, V. 3, P. 62.

Paul Shaver mentioned in settlement of estate of Jacob Sivers, August 19, 1761. Chalkley, V. 3, P. 65.

On March 21, 1765, he was named as one of three to view a road on North Mill Creek from the Upper Tract to the county line below Jacob Peterson. Chalkley, Vol. 1. P. 119.

Entry in deed book date of August 25, 1769, says Col. Abraham Smith's plantation at South Branch was near Paul Shever's. Chalkley Vol. 3, P. 113.

On June 20, 1770, deed of Abraham Smith to James Fowler of Lowden County; 100 pounds; 142 acres on a branch of South Branch of Potowmack called Licking Creek, above Paul Shaver's Run. Delivered James Fowler, August 10, 1771. Chalkley, Vol. 3, P. 501.

Admn. of Paul Shaver granted to widow Elizabeth, August 18, 1772. Chalkley, Vol. 1. P. 167.

August 18, 1772, Elizabeth Shaver's bond (with Jacob Harper, Peter Veneman) as administratrix of Paul Shaver. Chalkley, Vol. 3, P. 124.

Deed recorded August 18, 1772. George (X) Shaver, eldest son and heir apparent of Paul Shaver, deceased, and Elizabeth (X) Shaver, widow of Paul, to Michael Mallow, 200 acres lately the property of Paul on Licking Creek, a branch of South Branch of Potowmack, opposite Shelton's land. Chalkley, Vol. 3, P. 523.

September 10, 1772, Paul Shaver's estate appraised by Francois Wire, (McGuire) Joseph Crouch, Conrad Good, Chalkley, Vol. 3, P. 128.

Morton's History of Pendleton County, Page 171, states that Shaver (Paul) settled on Mallow's Run in 1761. The same volume gives on page 289 a tentative genealogy of Paul Shaver's descendants. This is incorrect. Compare with the Wanstaff family on page 325 and the data in the case given below.

Warnsturff vs. Warnsturff---Bill, 1818, by Jacob Warnsturff, James Rose and Catherine, his wife, late Warnsturff; William Dunsmore and Molly, his wife, late Warnsturff, only children of Lewis Warnsturff, deceased of Pendleton County, who died, intestate, 1801, leaving widow Mary and above children, infants. Jacob was eight years old. Mary was sister of Philip Fisher and in two years married Christopher Shaver of Greengrier. Chalkley, Vol. 2, P. 223.

Christopher Shaver, son of Paul, married the widow of Lewis Wanstaff (Warnsturff) not the daughter, Mary. From the case above the names of the children are Jacob, Catherine, (Rose) and Molly (Dunsmore). This does not tally with Morton, Page 325.

Elizabeth Shaver, widow, (of Paul?) was married December 20, 1787, to Andrew Dorets. Chalkley, Vol. 2, P. 304.

Morton's list of Paul's children does not include George, the eldest. See his deed above. This may be the same George who was Lieutenant in the Augusta County militia. A certificate of September 1st 1791, signed by him and Andrew Lewis Ensign, was recorded. Chalkley, Vol. 1, P. 422.

John Shaver, very probably, the son of Paul, was a private in Col. John Gibson's Detachment who served in the Western Department from January 1, 1780, to December 6, 1781, when Brigadier General William Irvine took the command. Shaver was discharged March 13, 1780. See Saffell, Records of Revolution. P. 281.

The Paul Shaver mentioned in the report of this department by Mr. Lewis is a different man. He was living in Lewis County and received a pension under act of Congress of June 7, 1832. This name is not a misprint for Shauer, and is correct. Mr. Lewis copied the list from the Report of the Secretary of War for 1835, concerning pensions. I find nothing about him in Haymond's History of Harrison County, or Smith's History of Lewis County. There were many families of Shaver or Shafer in the Cheat Valley, especially in Preston and Tucker Counties. This Paul is probably one of them. Morton gives some material on the family in his history of Preston. Bosworth's History of Randolph gives the name of Shaver in a few places.

Here are a few:

Jacob Shaver married Rachel Davis in 1796.  
John Shaver married Polly Nestor, daughter of  
Jacob Nestor, 1813.

B.61.

B.65

Elizabeth Shaver owned property, 1785.	B-85.
Peter <del>Shavers</del> , George Shavers,	B-85
George Shavers lands on Cheat--Settlement 1776.	B-94
Jacob Shaver, conveyed 130 acres of land on King's Run to Wm. Biggs, 1787-92.	B-98
Jacob Shaver to Wm. Biggs 130 acres on Trout Run	B-98
197 acres Elizabeth Shaver to Boston Stalnaker.	B-98.

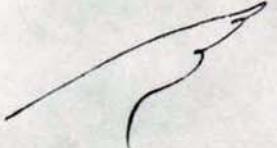
The copy of Strickler I mention has arrived and the family mentioned therein is later one tracing to Henry Shaver who married Susan Strickler, in 1812, and settled near Salem, Virginia.

Then there is another family headed by Phillip and two brothers, said to have come from Austria before the Revolution and settled in New York. Some of these later went to Virginia.

Then still another that unquestionably did come from Holland and settled on Mohawk River, New York State, 1767, and headed by one Bartholomew Shaver and had sons, John, Joseph, Henry, Herman, Frederick and George, and daughter, Catherine. The Mohawk section had great many Shavers of pure Dutch descent that came there early and their descendants scattered over much country, Virginia, included. They always spelled the name Shaver. Most, if not all the others, began with the "f" instead of "v" and the strictly German was Schaeffer. The family or families that crossed the mountains from the Valley seemingly had little or no connection or relationship with those in Western Pennsylvania and those in Preston and Tucker Counties, this State.

There is another family of Shavers in Marion County who claim to trace to some Valley ancestor named Balsor Shaver as nearly as can learn and inclined to believe he is same family at very early period.

There is only resumption that the Paul Shaver who got pension in Lewis County, 1833, under the Virginia Act, as Indian Scout in Revolution is the same Paul, son of the original settler. But the name, the time, and the fact that we know that more than one son did serve makes it altogether likely he is the same.

 Christopher Shaver who married Mary Warnsturff nee Fiasher is son of Paul according to Morton in his History of Pendleton (See two notes herein) but our family history does not credit such a son but there may have been one or even more as Jacob gave this information in his 88th year and said he could not recall much of the history.